

Dear friends of Vakoka Vakiteny

The year 2022 is the year we built our first library, in Mahazoarivo, and we also printed the second adventure book about the prince Bonenitra.

The majority of the population in Madagascar lives in poverty and inflation and increasing prices makes it even harder. Fortunately, this year, there was enough rain for the farmers to get enough harvest. This year, 2023, Madagascar will hold a presidential elections. We hope that every step and process will be peaceful and the new government will be successful.

Vakoka Vakiteny's work continues as usual, but the big goal for this year is to build a new library in the town Ambohimananambola outside of Antsirabe. We are very grateful for not only your continued partnership, but for your friendship and support in making visions for our future work. We are looking forward to collaborating further with you this year.

Best wishes,

Mparany Rakotondrainy

Manager of **Vakoka Vakiteny**



Happy New year wishes

Vakoka Vakiteny and the children in Madagascar wish you all a very success year and we hope that our great cooperation will continue as before. The children in Mahazoarivo are full of joy and happiness because they got the new library. (See pages 4 and 5)



Children in Mahazoarivo during the inauguration ceremony. Photo, RakotoGraph

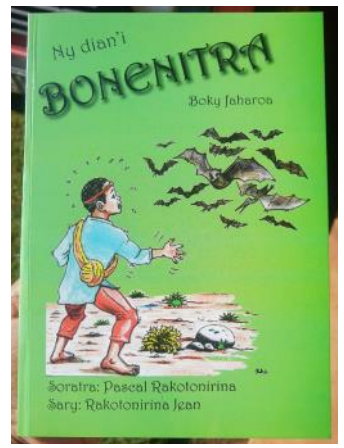
Bonenitra as a Christmas Gift

The cooperation with our trusted media expert RakotoGraph proceeded smoothly as this was the second book he printed for us. He lives in Antsirabe which makes it easier for us than going to a big print house in Antananarivo.

The second book about the adventurous prince Bonenitra was delivered to Hanta at the beginning of December, just in time before Christmas.

Hanta didn't waste her time and went straight to distribute books in Toliara, at the governmental schools in Akoronga and Andranomena. Antsirabe was also not forgotten. She gave books to Mahazoroivo and to the secondary school in Ambohimananambola. The children were very happy to receive the new book in addition to «Mijanona aty amiko» («Come, stay with me»), written by Nasrin Siege. In addition, the children who had received top grades got their own copies as merits for their achievements.

Vakoka Vakiteny did this to encourage the children to read and to be more active at school. Many children were very proud to be able to access new books again.



Children in Mahazoroivo got Bonenitra before Christmas. Photo, Hanta

Cooperation with a New School

Hanta travelled to the Morombe district at the west coast to find a new school to distribute the newly published books. Morombe is located north of Toliara and has no good road access.

While on her way, Hanta visited to the biggest baobab in Madagascar as you can see on the picture below. After her visit, she saw that there was a school in the village very close to the baobab called Andombiry.

She went there and met the parents, the two teachers and 50 children from grade 1 to 5. The school is in an extremely remote place. No one from the outside ever comes to see and visit.

Hanta and her team were warmly welcomed by the villagers. She talked with the parents about the importance to send their children to school — especially girls — and to learn to read. Then she distributed the children's books.

It was such a happy moment for the children. It's the first time anyone has given them books. In addition, the books are brand new, colourful, beautiful and in the Malagasy language!



Teacher in Andombiry receiving books from Hanta



Teacher and children in Andombiry



The biggest baobab in Andombiry, Madagascar

In September, Mparany, Klaus, Mparany's son Jakob and Hanta's son Jonathan visited this baobab too.

Library Inauguration



The children at Mahazorivo dance.

The newly built library at the school in Mahazoriavo was inaugurated on 21st December 2022. Hundreds of people, parents, students, teachers, and government officials came to celebrate the first library Vakoka Vakiteny has built in cooperation with the Association in Germany. A representative from the national television network and some private media outlets were also present. The director of the regional education office came himself and was very proud of what Vakoka Vakiteny did. The vice mayor of Antsirabe also attended.

The director of the regional education office said: "We are extremely grateful to Vakoka Vakiteny and the association in Germany for this remarkable work. This is the first time in the region that an organization has built a library — a modern library, full of wonderful pictures and colourful books. I hope that the children here in Mahazoriavo will be models for all of us, eager to read and enjoying the books. I would like to thank you again because Vakoka Vakiteny is following the vision of the government by building libraries throughout Madagascar. I hope this will not stay only here in Mahazoriavo but will expand to other regions and schools."

Similarly, the vice mayor of Antsirabe addressed Vakoka Vakiteny saying: "Vakoka Vakiteny is doing an excellent job. Another beautiful library like this does not exist in Madagascar. The Vakinankaratra region is very proud of what you have done!"



Left: Director of Mahazoriavo, director of the district education office student, vice mayor of Antsirabe, Hanta, director of the regional education office, Ny Avana, director of the secondary school in Ambohimambola. Pictures: RakotoGraphe



In addition to the ceremony, the district education office donated English books for the elementary level. Various French books were donated to the library by another association.

Picture above: Hanta explaining about Vakoka Vakiteny and telling about the opening hours of the library
Picture below: Hanta and Ny Avana showing the beautiful art on the wall.

Pictures: RakotoGraphe



During the ceremony, the students performed dances, poems and songs. They thanked Vakoka Vakiteny for giving them a library, opportunities to read, and to improve their skills. This is not just for us, but for our future too, they said.

Many people were surprised by the work done by Vakoka Vakiteny and the association in Germany, for example people and students from neighboring schools. They asked for the opening hours of the library. Therefore, the library will be open every Tuesday, Friday and Saturday for people from outside the school.



Mparany
Rakotondrainy
Manager/ Editor



Sophie Küspert-
Rakotondrainy
Public Relations/
Editor



Hanta
Rakotondrainy
Book
distribution/
Trainings

About *Vakoka Vakiteny*

Vakoka Vakiteny has since 2008

- ... published 18 titles
- ... distributed 32,000 books
- ... encouraged thousands of children to read
- ... introduced reading in hundreds of schools
- ... strengthened the Malagasy language
- ... promoted Malagasy authors and artists
- ... participated in many cultural events
- ... supported the Malagasy natural environment through books and campaigns

Address:

Edition *Vakoka Vakiteny*

Publishing Company

B.P. 453

Tollara 601

MADAGASCAR

+261(0)349069769

vakoka.vakiteny@gmail.com

www.vakiteny.org